

THE TIMES.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1890.

THIRD DISTRICT CONVENTION.

Who shall be the leader of the Democracy of the Third Congressional district in the coming campaign? This is the question that will assemble in Richmond today.

The selection of the candidate is a duty fraught not only with this time particularly, but always with much responsibility.

The proper exercise of that duty requires coolness and judgment.

Representatives of the party in Gloucester, King William, New Kent, Hanover, Henric, and Chesterfield counties are gathered here, and the one predominant idea which should influence them is that the metropolitan district of Virginia, the leader of the South, is called upon to rebuke the outrage of the Force bill.

That rebuke should be sharp, decisive, and of no uncertain sound. To make it this, the strongest man Democracy can select should be given the leadership.

Names likely to be most prominent before the convention are those of the Hon. George W. Lee, Colonel Tazewell Elliott, and Hon. Richard H. Cardwell. Results of the primaries and precinct meetings show that each of these have delegates favorable to them. Some of the delegates have already so announced themselves, some in making such an announcement before they were chosen have practically been instructed for some particular candidate. Others are uncommitted. Only the first ballot will demonstrate the relative strength of each candidate.

Everyone recognizes that this contest before the convention is but a friendly one. No one can doubt for an instant that the nominee for Congress, whoever he may be, will receive the hearty support of every Democrat and true Virginian in the district.

At this vital moment the life must be drawn sharply between those who are true Virginians and those who are not.

The line has been drawn by a radical House of Representatives and it glitters with Federal bayonets.

Such a house of alleged representatives must be purged. Virginia, the South, the whole country looks to the Democratic party to do this.

It can only be accomplished by placing Democrats in seats now held by Radicals.

The man who at this juncture votes in Virginia for anybody but a Democrat proclaims himself an enemy to his own people and to the liberties of America. If his act be "endless every act of a Road-ridden horde of conspirators against democracy. I believe in the Radical party endeavoring to do by force what it can accomplish in no other way.

Not to believe in the sanctity of the ballot, not to believe in the sovereignty of States, but to believe in the conduct of its own affairs, I believe in prostituting the jury to party ends. I believe in placing the bayonet at the throat of the whole race.

I believe in turning Virginia into a military province. I am anxious to enjoy a return of the horrors of reconstruction days. I am not a true Virginian.

This is the only logical deduction to be based upon a vote for any man who offers himself to Virginians as a candidate for Congress, unless he is a member of that party against which the infamous Force bill is aimed. It is aimed at that party because Democracy has been the unswerving enemy for a century nearly of the principles now embodied in the Republican party.

One after another the predecessors of Democracy have been shattered by Democracy. Republicanism is the worst form of modern malignancy, the type of the manifestations inimical to the Constitution of the United States.

Though defeated now and then, by force of arms, by the use of untested money, or by other instruments of fraud, Democracy still stands forth conspicuous as the defender of American institutions.

Against the Radical Force bill, conceived in sectionalism, blind hatred, and despair, the Democratic party must offer an unbroken line of opposition. The Third-District Democracy must see to it that they form a solid part of that line.

Their delegates will select a strong man as the next candidate for representative to Congress. It would be one of the proudest moments of a man's life when he is called to take the standard for the people, and carry it in this contest against force and fraud. One man may do this at the same time. Those who are unsuccessful in attaining the honor, will show their patriotism, their love of Old Virginia in immediate joining forces with the candidate, and setting an example of that harmonious enthusiasm upon which so much depends in the bitter fight against Radicalism that would use the bayonet if it could.

FARMERS IN CONFLICT.

In Lynchburg today will gather the State Farmers' Alliance. Its deliberations will be the object of great interest on the part of the people of Virginia. In a few months the organization has grown rapidly in this State; in its membership are included many prominent agriculturists who not only appreciate the existing evils which press particularly upon the farmers, but who also are acquainted with the root of those evils, the practical control for thirty years of the legislation of this country by the Republican party.

While in other sections of the country the Alliance has shown that it will participate as an organization directly in politics, in Virginia it has pursued a most conservative course, and the results of the Lynchburg gathering will no doubt show that the farmers of Virginia are determined to hold to the course of conservatism. The reason for this conservatism is to be found perhaps in the belief of the farmers that true and lasting relief for them is to be had not by half-way measures, but by compromises, but by striking at the root of the whole matter. The greatest sufferers from the tariff, an enhanced legacy of the war which devastated so many Virginia farmers, are the farmers.

That the tariff exists as it does today is due to the continuance of the branches of Congress. It may sound very plausible for the secret enemies of the farmers to point to the defeat in 1888 of the ablest exponent of tariff reform in this country, Grover Cleveland, as a token that such a measure was not popular. But such an argument was found to be empty when it is remembered that Grover Cleveland received more than six thousand more votes of the people of the United States than did Benjamin Harrison; that by means of money,

CONTRIBUTED BY MANUFACTURERS AND OTHERS.

to the tariff as their reward, blocks of five were judiciously distributed, where the standing of the electoral college might be changed, and perhaps some of them found lodgment in New York where a trade route in the election of a governor on the Democratic ticket while the Presidential electors chosen were Republicans.

The farmers' rebellion also the New York Tribune, an organ of the Republican party, has announced that with the Force bill passed an endless succession of tariff bills would be possible, and the thoughtful farmer realizes full well that an endless succession of tariff bills promulgated under the auspices of the Republican party would mean absolute starvation for him. The condition and present attitude of his brethren in the West and North alone forebode him this. The farmers, therefore, see that relief is to be had only in the death of the Republican party.

Whether or not the State convention at Lynchburg will enunciate anything bearing immediately upon politics, cannot be forecast. THE TIMES, which recognizes the intelligence and honest purpose of the Alliance to better the condition of their class, will wait with the rest of Virginia the results of the meeting in the hope, which does not seem unwarranted, that the good sense and moderation which has heretofore characterized the actions of this organization in Virginia may continue to be exemplified.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARM.

A few weeks ago the Boston Journal lamented the decay of the New England village. Its blindness to the causes of this, the decay of the New England farm, was evidently apparent, especially when it looked to summarize the progress of the movement to sum up in a triumph it uttered such absurd aphorisms as "the cause of the decay of the New England farm is the decay of the New England village."

"Don't let us go back to the old story of living, but demand government values, by continuing to produce and doing all in our power to stimulate a demand by encouraging such manufacturing interests as will make demands for our products."

"Agriculture here in Massachusetts has changed as much in the past thirty years as the methods in manufacturing, and of two young men of the same ability and the same capital I think the one that chooses the farm (if he understands the improved methods of farming and adapts himself to some specialty adapted to his farm and his local market), at the end of twenty-five years will be the best off financially, and enjoys life better than the one in other business."

"Agriculture, properly carried on, is a source of happiness, a peace of mind and heart, unknown to those who spend their money and time for the sole purpose of securing that article of least value to their mental and moral nature—money."

"If the same amount of energy and ability were put into agriculture in its various branches, as is required to make an ordinary mercantile business a success, it is our opinion that such progress as the 'terrible distress of farmers,' etc., would not be common—certainly would not redound much to the credit of those making them."

"From such able generalities the Journal deduces the remarkable assertion that 'they go to show the hollowness and insincerity of the current talk about the decline of New England farming and the distress of New England farmers,' and in the same breath, that 'the fact is that farmers who cling to worn-out soil or to worn-out methods in New England or elsewhere, are sure to be left behind by those who are more progressive.'"

In opposition to this rose-glow of theory stand the deserted farms of Vermont. The Vermont men have evidently followed the advice of the Journal and ceased to cling to worn-out soil. Then, again, the agriculturists of Kansas have had to burn their corn for fuel, all of course, because they have not been progressive, as the Journal would say.

But the thinking farmer who realizes that during the last thirty years agricultural values have steadily diminished, while taxes have increased, will make a different use of the career of his improvement. He will investigate and discover that it is time for him to cease clinging to the most pernicious doctrine of a protective tariff. The carrying out of this doctrine by the Republican party has made farmers the principal sufferers. Its abrogation would result in a natural settlement of the financial troubles, which are felt so keenly by the farmers. But as long as New England farmers follow such false guidance as the Boston Journal they may expect nothing but ruin and starvation.

Two sentences from the editorial columns of the Boston Journal should be pondered by members of the Farmers' Alliance and their friends. They refer to the situation in South Carolina, and are as follows: "This is the most serious split that has taken place in the 'Solid South' since the rise of the Readjuster movement in Virginia."

"The most obvious feature of the present position of things is that the breach which has been made is past repairing."

This will show Southern farmers how such movements are regarded by the enemies of the South, and Southern farmers should see to it that both of the statements of the Journal prove to be imaginative.

HON. CHARLES L. WOLFE.

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HON. CHARLES L. WOLFE, the Republican of Pennsylvania who contributed so much in 1882 to Governor Patterson's success, has again announced his views on reform in that Quaker-ridden community. His utterances demonstrate that he has not only retrograded from his position, but is advancing still nearer the true policy of reform.

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DREAM OF THE PRESS.

Current Comments Cited From the Leading Papers of the Country.

(New York Times.)

There is no place in the country where it is so difficult to judge of the sense and temper of the people as in the National capital. The atmosphere is thick with political intrigue and that particular partisan spirit that looks upon the possession of office and the control of patronage as the local end of all political activity. As a consequence, the politicians engaged in its turmoil are almost sure to misjudge public opinion and to carry out policies that are disastrous to the country. As a consequence, any party movement that has its origin in Congress, instead of having come from the people, is very likely to miscarry.

There could be no better illustration of this tendency than is found in the fate of the Force bill. The subject with which that measure deals is not occupying the attention of the people, and its purpose was not in the direction of their desires. There was no popular demand for it in any part of the country, and it was directly opposed to the general drift of popular feeling, which desired nothing more than a continued and increased tariff. Now, in the face of the opposition, it is being pushed through the House by a party which is not in sympathy with the measure, and which is not in sympathy with the people.

Now, I pointed out various other modes of dealing with this matter of wages, which, I believe, the merit of being honest, the only one that can really be helpful in the economic improvement of the working classes. They each tend to the alteration of the ratio, and therefore to the supply of labor as compared with the demand for it. Possibly one or more of them may be useful, but they are all slow ones. Well, my friends, sure ones often are. But I doubt if they are as slow as some may think them. The party which is pushing the Force bill is not a party that is slow. It is a party that is quick. It is a party that is quick to take advantage of any opportunity. It is a party that is quick to take advantage of any opportunity.

THE THORNS AND STINGS.

(The Nation.)

The irritation shown by Senator Edmunds in his opposition to the Force bill, is a bill that the progress of the measure is quite natural to those who look upon a tariff bill that has been reported by the Committee as necessarily the right thing to be enacted into law. Such persons cannot understand why such stubborn opposition should be made on small things, or what the Senator's motive may be. They think that an easy answer can be found to this seeming mystery. Each of these small things involves the bread and butter of a great number of people. The Senator's motive is not to protect the bread and butter of the people, but to protect the bread and butter of the Senator.

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(The Nation.)

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LABOR IN ENGLAND.

AN OBSERVER'S OPINION ABOUT ITS SITUATION.

(The Nation.)

The Labor Question at the Root of Much. How Rural People May Be Rivalled to the Soil—Let Every Man Have His House and Garden.

I return to the topic to which I recently alluded. There can be no doubt that labor questions are of the greatest possible importance. Every week—almost every day—disputes are arising. The air seems heavy with them. But, after all, as I said, the agitators will not be able to materially get beyond the law of supply and demand in labor. Apart from modification of the law existing between these two quantities—changes—even minor changes—the results of contested dispute, and usually obtained at a greater cost to the workers, can be only a temporary relief. In the long run that law is bound to be the regulator of these things. It cannot be successfully worked.

Now, I pointed out various other modes of dealing with this matter of wages, which, I believe, the merit of being honest, the only one that can really be helpful in the economic improvement of the working classes. They each tend to the alteration of the ratio, and therefore to the supply of labor as compared with the demand for it. Possibly one or more of them may be useful, but they are all slow ones. Well, my friends, sure ones often are. But I doubt if they are as slow as some may think them. The party which is pushing the Force bill is not a party that is slow. It is a party that is quick. It is a party that is quick to take advantage of any opportunity. It is a party that is quick to take advantage of any opportunity.

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